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4372 7590 05/13/2010

ARENT FOX LLP
1050 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 400
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

WINTER, JOHN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3685

DATE MAILED: 05/13/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/289,957

04/13/1999

JOHN S. HENDRICKS

026880.00024

9303

TITLE OF INVENTION: ELECTRONIC BOOK ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY SYSTEMS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$0	\$0	\$1510	08/13/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

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B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

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B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

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(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/289,957	04/13/1999	JOHN S. HENDRICKS	026880.00024	9303

TITLE OF INVENTION: ELECTRONIC BOOK ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY SYSTEMS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$0	\$0	\$1510	08/13/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
WINTER, JOHN M	3685	705-050000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
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- 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/289,957	04/13/1999	JOHN S. HENDRICKS	026880.00024	9303
4372	7590	05/13/2010	EXAMINER	
ARENT FOX LLP 1050 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 400 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			WINTER, JOHN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3685	
DATE MAILED: 05/13/2010				

Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Extension is 0 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the 0 day extension on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/289,957	HENDRICKS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JOHN M. WINTER	3685	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 225-281.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/30/2009, 11/4/2009, 4/22/2009</u></p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</p> | <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</p> <p>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____.</p> |
|---|--|

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DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Demetria Buncum on February 25, 2010.

Claim 225

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of a library unit, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the library unit has a ~~an identification~~ (library ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book from an operation center; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code from the operation center to the

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library unit, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers,

~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the library ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~
receiving, at the library unit, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code;

matching by the library unit the at least two unique ID numbers with the library ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer,

and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

displaying pages of the electronic book; storing the electronic book in a memory, and controlling viewing of the electronic book via a control panel of the electronic book viewer, wherein the electronic viewer is separate from the library unit and communicates with library unit via a wired or wireless interface.

Claim 239,

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A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has an ~~identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID,~~ ~~wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code;

and matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the

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local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the step of transmitting the data signal and the local authorization code to the endpoint site is performed by one of a telephone modem, a cable modem, a wireless modem, an integrated services digital network (ISDN) connector, a fiber optic connector, a local area net (LAN) connector and a satellite antenna connector.

Claim 240,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers,

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~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book; receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and~~

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the data signal and the authorization code are received through an interface, wherein the interface comprises one of a radio frequency connector, a telephone modem, a cable modem, a wireless modem, an integrated digital services network connector, a fiber optic connector, and a local area net connector and a satellite antenna connector.

Claim 241,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID

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), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID,~~ ~~wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the step of communicating generates an electronic book menu, and wherein the method further comprising sending commands, via a remote control, to scroll the electronic book menu and to select a desired electronic book for ordering.

Claim 243,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID,~~ wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested

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~~electronic book~~; receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the electronic book is provided using a cable television network.

Claim 244,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

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transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the electronic book is provided via a broadcast.

Claim 247,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID

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), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID,~~ ~~wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the electronic book is provided using a satellite broadcast, and wherein the satellite broadcast includes one or more of a direct to-home broadcast, a video network distribution

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broadcast, a regional broadcast, and a forward communications service broadcast.

Claim 248,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID,~~ wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the ordering site includes one of a local cable system, a broadcast affiliate, a national broadcaster, an intranet site, an electronic book store and an electronic library.

Claim 261,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data

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signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the ordering site includes an electronic book menu, receives the electronic book selection and receives the processor identification.

Claim 263,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID

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), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification (electronic book viewer ID);~~

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID,~~ ~~wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

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wherein the local authorization code, comprises: an identification code; an address; and one or more electronic book identifiers, wherein the identification code uniquely identifies the electronic book viewer receiving electronic book access authorization, the address identifies a location of the electronic book viewer and routing instructions, and the one or more electronic book identifiers specify the electronic books that are authorized for decrypting.

Claim 264,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID,~~

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~~wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code;

storing the received authorization code; and matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the electronic book selection comprises a subscription.

Claim 268,

A method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

receiving, via a processor of an endpoint site, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the end point site has a ~~an identification~~ (endpoint ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

requesting the electronic book; ~~upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account

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associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the endpoint ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

receiving, at the endpoint site, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; and

matching at endpoint site the at least two unique ID numbers with the endpoint ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

wherein the data signal further comprises a menu of available electronic books.

Claim 280,

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A system that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

means for receiving, via a processor of a library unit, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the library unit has a ~~an identification~~ (library ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

means for requesting the electronic book from an operation center; means for ~~upon a~~ determination determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

means for transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the endpoint site, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, ~~wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the library ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

means for receiving, at the library unit, the data signal and the local authorization code;

means for matching by the library unit the at least two unique ID numbers with the library ID and the electronic book viewer ID, means for storing the received authorization code;

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means for transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the means for viewing, and

the means for viewing comprising:

means for prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

means for displaying pages of the electronic boo; means for storing the electronic book, and means for controlling viewing of the electronic book via a control panel of the electronic book viewer, wherein the means for viewing is separated from the library unit and communicates with the library unit via a wired or wireless interface.

Claim 281,

~~A computer program product comprising:~~ a non transitory computer-readable medium having control logic stored therein that when executed causes a computer to perform the steps of: ~~for causing a computer to execute a method for providing electronic books to a subscriber, the control logic comprising:~~

~~first computer readable program code means for~~ receiving, via a processor of a library unit, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the library unit has a ~~an identification~~ (library ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a ~~viewer identification~~ (electronic book viewer ID);

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~~second computer readable program code means for~~ requesting the electronic book from an operation center;

~~third computer readable program code means for, upon a determination~~ determining that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer;

~~fourth computer readable program code means for~~ transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code to the library unit, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers,

~~wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the library ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book;~~

~~fifth computer readable program code means for~~ receiving, at the library unit, the data signal and the local authorization code and matching by the library unit the at least two unique ID numbers with the library ID and the electronic book viewer ID;

~~sixth computer readable program code means for~~ storing the received authorization code;

~~seven computer readable program code means for~~ transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code,

~~and the means for viewing comprising:~~

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~~eighth computer readable program code means for~~ prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code;

~~ninth computer readable program code means for~~ displaying pages of the electronic book;

~~tenth computer readable program code means for~~ storing the electronic book, and

~~eleventh computer readable program code means for~~ controlling viewing of the electronic book via a control panel of the electronic book viewer, wherein ~~the means for~~ viewing is separated from the library unit and communicates with the library unit via a wired or wireless interface.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 225-281 are allowed over the prior art record.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art of record

Hartrick et al. (US Patent 5,532,920) teaches a data processing system and method to enforce payment of royalties when copying softcopy books

What they fail to teach or suggest:

None of the art of record, taken individually or combination disclose at least the steps/components of “ receiving, at the library unit, the data signal and the local authorization

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code; storing the received authorization code; matching by the library unit the at least two unique ID numbers with the library ID and the electronic book viewer ID, transmitting based upon the matching the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, prior to viewing decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code”

3. These distinct features render claim 225 allowable. Claims 226-281 are either dependant upon claim 225 or contain similar limitations as claim 225 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN M. WINTER whose telephone number is (571)272-6713. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6, 1st Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Calvin Hewitt can be reached on (571) 272-6709. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JMW

/Calvin L Hewitt II/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3685